



TWO if by *Land* THREE if by *Sea*

A Lighthouse Crowns This Sprawling Structure
Depicting Maritime Authenticity

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artfully detailed gables with decorative shingles, extensive
woodwork, porches and towering lighthouse are the transla-
tion of a passion for East Coast architecture and waterfront living.
This masterpiece is a collaborative effort of the builder, architect and
designer's ability to capture "nautical" with authenticity and the unex-
pected. It flows seamlessly from the exterior to the interior incorporat-
ing a casual, comfortable lifestyle while showcasing personal treasures
unique only to this family and this home.

The creative process entailed some technical issues. It was impera-
tive to find the perfect setting, and situate the home accordingly. A loca-
tion encompassing the stability of the land close to the bluff but not too
close so as to deliver its own vision. Structural detailing and engineer-
ing were required to withstand the voracity of Lake Michigan winds.
The natural contour of the land is a point; the home was designed to
angle into that point for views that are breathtaking and panoramic.

The home has scalable design for intimacy but also comfort for
guests. Interior spaces flow one to another while also being defined.
Varying ceiling heights and shapes depict an illusionary definition of
rooms. The living room beam pattern mimics that of a ship's wheel,
combining natural stained wood and painted wood beams. The foyer
features a vaulted ceiling, while the ceiling in the kitchen is coffered.

The sequence of spaces seem to be orchestrated with an element of
surprise or delight when entering a new room," shares architect Brent
Dykstra.

Rounded walls found in the master bedroom, living and dining
rooms were inspired by those of a boat. The soft curves with glass
hollowed in the framework are the aperture for expansive views and
memorable sunsets.

Illuminating natural light from the lighthouse windows casts
dancing shadows across the stairwell and foyer. The dramatic, per-
fectly depicted pinnacle is a superlative example of creativity and
craftsmanship. "The lighthouse posed the biggest challenge, but it
turned out beautifully," shares the lady of the house.

Its motorized windows and decorative pendent virtuously com-
bine form and function.

The compass rose in the foyer floor sets the tone for the interior
detailing. It was interior designer Judy McCormack who combined
the homeowners' desire for a casual, relaxed environment suitable for
children, pets and gatherings of all sizes, combined it with their love
for boating, and took the space from the intangible to the tangible. The
project blossomed from the request for color in the living room. The
living room's striped pillow fabric with shades of yellow, green, red,



blue and black fits the bill perfectly. An antique model ship gifted amongst the homeowners found its home in a specially designed niche in the dining room. Antique flags were framed and border the wall to the lower level.

The “yacht club” referred to by the homeowners is the finished lower level. Its curved stairway has floor to ceiling wainscoting with a single mahogany handrail. The lower level has mahogany wainscoting throughout. The bar is detailed with antique navigation lights found from a World War I ship.

The windows posed unique problem solving skills because of the curved glass. Custom curved rodding with grommated drapery panels were the solution for privacy in the living areas while roman shades worked well in the master bed room giving a simple, clean look with a nautical feel. “Each room was an adventure and it is still a work in progress,” explains Judy.

Builder Rod Obbink of Obbink Builders was the catalyst for the creativity, technical skills and superior craftsmanship found throughout this waterfront home. By implementing the desires of the homeowner, and spearheading the design teams, Rod Obbink created a finished product that the homeowners describe as “a beautifully designed and built home that will be there for many generations to enjoy.”

PREVIOUS PAGE: The shingle-style home spans horizontally across the property for beautiful views from every room.

INSET: A unique copper roof covers the arched entry. The design is carried through in to the foyer.

THIS PAGE:

TOP: An alder wood island is accented with white granite countertop, a hard-to-find practical substitute for the homeowner’s first choice of white marble.

BOTTOM: The lighthouse tower draws the eye skyward and provides the dramatic space with abundant natural light.

OPPOSITE PAGE:

The ceiling’s ship wheel pattern is a display of nautical sophistication.





ABOVE LEFT: Nautical detailing appropriately depicts the lower level styling which is more commonly known as the "Yacht Club."

ABOVE MIDDLE: Enter this luxurious master bath through French mahogany and Carrera marble counter top.

ABOVE RIGHT: The Obbink Builders team and the homeowners decided to keep the bedrooms a modest size for a cozier, cottage feel in a larger scale home.

BELOW: The curved wall posed some issues but the uniqueness made it a worthwhile challenge.



Every room offers a visual experience making it a memory worth visiting over and over again.



ABOVE: The barreled ceiling depicts excellent design, lending grandeur to an often ordinary space.

BELOW LEFT: The lower level bar is accented with antique navigation lights from a World War I ship.

BELOW RIGHT: Family and guests enjoy the nautical detailing.





Rod Obbink Builders



PRINCIPAL OWNER:

Rod Obbink

NUMBER OF YEARS IN BUSINESS:

35

EDUCATION:

Rod maintains a Builders License in Michigan and California; he also participates in continuing education classes.

YEAR BUSINESS STARTED:

1978

BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:

We strive to completely understand our clients so that we can exceed their expectations. Using our expertise to produce outstanding quality, we not only deliver on our promises, but we also eliminate the stress and hassle found in many construction projects.

WHAT SETS YOUR BUSINESS APART?

We believe that if the stage is set before the first bucket of dirt is moved, the entire project will be a success. Our customers have sent us countless letters of thanks and recommendations to attest to this fact.

HOBBIES, VOLUNTEERISM, ETC. :

Rod volunteers for his church and participates on mission trips. He also enjoys golfing, downhill skiing, riding his Harley motorcycle and going to big rig truck shows.

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER & WEB ADDRESS:

For additional information, call (616) 836-1604 or email Rod@Obbinkbuilders.com.

ABOVE: Drama, luxury and escape are defining features of this east coast design.

MIDDLE LEFT: IPE decking was used because it is rot resistance along with the fact that it so closely resembles planking on a boat. Concealed fasteners were used for installation to achieve a smooth, uniform ship-like effect.

MIDDLE RIGHT: An outdoor shower offers water front living practicality with privacy.